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Shorelands and Environmental Assistance Program

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Section "A"

Performance Report
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Washington Shorelands & Environmental Assistance Program
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Sections 306/309

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CHAPTER 1 – SECTION 306

TASK 1.2 SHORELINE MANAGEMENT

SMA/GMA Mapping in the Coastal Zone

We have successfully transferred several hard copy maps including stability maps, littoral drift and historical estuary maps, streams and lakes under SMA jurisdiction into digital format. These data have been made available to our regional Ecology planners through the agency's intranet. In addition we have scanned historic aerial photos (1940s) and are in the processes of scanning 1970s oblique aerials. Photo locations have been digitally mapped and hyperlinked so photos can be viewed through Arc View as well as a web browser. These photos have also been made available on CD with an index map by county and provided to local planners and natural resource managers. We have ported many of our shoreline digital data layers into ArcIMS and this will soon be posted on the internet.

Task 1.3 Wetland Management

River Basin Characterization

WRIA 14 – Kennedy / Goldsborough

A consultant team (Golder Associates and Economic, and Engineering Services, Inc.) was hired to perform a Level 1 Technical Assessment. This will result in a comprehensive detailing of data, reports and studies relevant to the watershed. The Level 1 Technical Assessment will satisfy a number of statutory planning requirements in the areas of water resource, water quality, in stream flow and habitat. The consultant's work is relying heavily on the information we provided them, including Ecology materials.

The Planning Unit adopted the resolution I drafted regarding having WRIA 16 conduct the initial assessment work for the small drainages in WRIA 14 that empty into the Lower Hood Canal. (The WRIA 16 Planning Unit had already adopted it.) This "no-cost" agreement will result in cost savings to both Planning Units since those members whose primary interest is in either Hood Canal or Southwest Puget Sound can focus their efforts on their respective watersheds (at least through the assessment work).

Efforts in the area of education and information were developed and continue. Newspaper articles, radio promotions, a "poster board", and fact sheets were developed. Presentations were made to local groups to discuss the planning effort.

A web site was designed, and is on-line. This is linked to Ecology's watershed site, and contains updates on what's happening in the planning process.

I developed a Scope-of-Work and budget for a contract amendment for the basic 2514 grant for next fiscal year.

The Planning Unit is moving forward on grant contract language to address Instream Flows. All members indicated a desire to have a scope-of-work which would focus on looking at the connectivity issue between surface and groundwater in selected sub-basins. The Technical Committee has agreed to the "Step A" language, and has forwarded its recommendations to the

Planning Unit. The initial emphasis in this watershed where flows are already been set will include looking into these hydraulic continuity issues.

WRIA 16 – Skokomish / Dosewallips

A consultant team (Golder Associates and Economic, and Engineering Services, Inc.) was hired to perform a Level 1 Technical Assessment. This will result in a comprehensive detailing of data, reports and studies relevant to the watershed. The Level 1 Technical Assessment will satisfy a number of statutory planning requirements in the areas of water resource, water quality, instream flow and habitat. The consultant's work is relying heavily on the information we provided them, including Ecology materials.

The Planning Unit adopted the resolution I drafted regarding having WRIA 16 conduct the initial assessment work for the small drainages in WRIA 14 that empty into the Lower Hood Canal. (The WRIA 14 Planning Unit subsequently adopted it.) This "no-cost" agreement will result in cost savings to both Planning Units since those members whose primary interest is in either Hood Canal or Southwest Puget Sound can focus their efforts on their respective watersheds (at least through the assessment work).

Efforts in the area of education and information were developed and continue. A number of local groups have been contacted, and the intent is to tie the Level 1 Technical Assessment results with presentations in the northern and southern areas of the WRIA. Two newsletters have been produced and are being distributed to libraries and community "gathering places". These newsletters share information about the planning process, and include both technical and anecdotal bits about the watershed.

I developed a revised Scope-of-Work and budget for a contract amendment for the basic 2514 grant for next fiscal year.

I continue working with the Tribe and Mason County to scope an approach for the Instream Flow grant agreement. The timing of the Instream Flow work will be driven by the development of the Level 1 Technical Assessment. We have structured the Golder contract to provide work needed at the "front end" of the instream flow work as early as possible in their Level 1 Assessment.

I am participating in the Agency's TMDL effort for the Skokomish River basin. Meetings are being held every other week to develop a detailed implementation plan for the clean-up.

I worked with the Technical Committee to develop a draft Scope-of-Work and budget for the Instream Flow grant. I assembled this and circulated it for Technical Committee comment, and plan to submit the final draft grant agreement to Ecology in July.

WRIA 17 – Quilcene / Snow

A Level 1 Technical Assessment has been completed for this watershed.

An agreement was finalized with the USGS on a study of the groundwater and surface water in the Chimacum Basin, and a surface water study in the Quilcene Basin. Current work includes inventorying 100 wells, conducting seepage runs, and installing mini-piezometer on Chimacum Creek. The study will continue for approximately two years.

The Jefferson County Planning Commission held a Public Hearing on a proposed ordinance to address seawater intrusion problems in the County in June. I coordinated with the Water Resources Program to ensure any county ordinance in this regard is consistent with Ecology statutory responsibilities and requirements.

I worked with the County and PUD in developing two proposals to Ecology's Environmental Assessment Program – one to supplement the USGS work, and one to look into the seawater intrusion issue facing the county. The Program has earmarked funds in FY 2003 to work with the watershed group on the seawater intrusion issue.

The group continues to make headway on the draft outline for the final watershed plan. I participated in the interviews to select a consultant to begin drafting the final watershed plan. Consultant selection and negotiation will occur in July.

I assisted Ecology's Environmental Assessment Program and the County in drafting the "scope-of-work" portions of a Stream Gauging Grant. This Grant is underway, with the installation of the first 4 gauges scheduled to begin the second week in July. These gauges will be installed on Big Quilcene, Little Quilcene, Snow and Salmon waterways. Jefferson County is fully staffed to assist in this effort.

I assembled the draft contract agreement to conduct Instream Flow work, which was signed the end of May. This effort will focus initially on developing "Exceedence Curves" for all the major drainages.

CHAPTER 2 – SECTION 309

TASK 2.1 IMPLEMENTATION OF LEGISLATIVE CHANGES TO THE SHORELINE MANAGEMENT ACT

- SEA Program staff continued to work with consultants to keep them abreast of settlement negotiation developments.
- Consultants worked on drafting new guideline language addressing new issues that arose during negotiation. The on going preparation of draft guidebook materials are designed to be available at such time as new guidelines are in effect.
- Provided technical assistance to local governments conducting shoreline inventory and assessment for SMP updates.